

**Listing of Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A connecting structure of a conductive connecting tab of a battery, said conductive connecting tab made of nickel and mounted on a battery element and connected to an inner wall surface of a battery case ~~or to inner surface of a battery housing~~, said connective structure comprising a plurality of bumps for projection welding of ~~said the~~ conductive connecting tab ~~being~~, said plurality of bumps for projection welding are positioned face-to-face to the inner wall surface ~~or the surface of the cover made of soft steel~~ of the battery case and are bonded by projection welding ~~or to the surface of the battery housing~~, and ~~projection welding is performed to connect the tab.~~

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A sealed battery, comprising ~~a conductive connecting tab mounted on a battery element~~, a plurality of bumps for projection welding of a conductive connecting tab made of nickel and mounted on a battery element ~~are formed on the conductive connecting tab~~, wherein said bumps for projection welding of the conductive connecting tab made of nickel are ~~being~~ positioned face-to-face to an inner wall surface ~~or a surface of a cover made of soft steel~~ of a battery case, and a connecting portion of the tab is formed by ~~or to inner wall of a battery housing~~, and ~~projection welding is performed to connect the tab.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a connecting structure of a conductive connecting tab of a battery, ~~the said~~ conductive connecting tab being mounted on a battery element and bonded to an inner wall surface or to an inner surface of a cover of a battery case, said method comprising the steps of

forming a plurality of bumps for projection welding on the conductive connecting tab made of nickel, ~~positioning said~~

providing a plurality of bumps for projection welding face-to-face to an inner wall surface or an inner surface of the cover made of soft steel of the battery case, ~~or to inner surface of the battery housing,~~ and

supplying welding current under the condition that a pair of electrodes are pressed on welding points, said ~~pair of~~ electrodes having contact areas larger than ~~areas of the~~ portions where ~~said the~~ plurality of bumps for projection welding are positioned.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a sealed battery, ~~said method comprising the steps of forming a plurality of bumps for projection welding on a connective wherein a conductive connecting tab made of nickel, said conductive connecting tab being and mounted on a battery element is bonded to an inner wall surface or and connected to inner surface of a battery case,~~ said method comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of bumps for projection welding on the conductive connecting tab,  
providing a plurality of bumps for projection welding face-to-face to an inner wall surface or an inner surface of cover of the battery case, and

supplying welding current under the condition that a pair of electrodes are pressed on welding points, said electrodes having contact areas larger than the portions where the plurality

Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Attorney Docket No. 020030

Serial No. 10/044,977

of bumps for projection welding are positioned, and a connecting portion is formed by projection welding housing, positioning said bumps face to face to inner wall surface of the battery case or to inner surface of the battery housing, supplying welding current under the condition that a pair of electrodes are pressed on welding points, said pair of electrodes having contact areas larger than areas of portions where said plurality of bumps are positioned, and performing projection welding to form the connection.